

Statement Condemning the Remarks of Professor Marc Lamont Hill

Professor Marc Lamont Hill delivered a speech on November 28th at the United Nations International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. That speech included a statement that many regard as promoting violence, the phrase "from the river to the sea," which has been used by anti-Israel terror groups and widely perceived as language that threatens the existence of the State of Israel. Professor Hill's remarks have been broadly criticized as, among other things, "virulent anti-Semitism" and "hate speech," and have ignited a public furor.

In giving this speech outside of his role as a teacher and researcher at Temple, Professor Hill was not speaking on behalf of or representing the University. We recognize that Professor Hill's comments are his own, that his speech as a private individual is entitled to the same Constitutional protection of any other citizen, and that he has through subsequent statements expressly rejected anti-Semitism and anti-Semitic violence.

Notwithstanding this controversy, as a public university Temple continues to support a learning and work environment that is open to a wide diversity of thought, opinion and dialogue by people of all backgrounds.

The members of the Board of Trustees of Temple University – Of The Commonwealth System of Higher Education, in exercise of their own Constitutionally-protected right as citizens to express their views, hereby state their disappointment, displeasure, and disagreement with Professor Hill's comments, and reaffirm in the strongest possible terms the President's condemnation of all anti-Semitic, racist or incendiary language, hate speech, calls to violence, or the disparagement of any person or persons based on religion, nationality, race, gender, sexual orientation or identity.